

NWEA Research Findings: Interrupted or Suspended Tests

The NWEA Research team has conducted a thorough review of MAP data in light of system-related disruptions that have occasionally occurred during testing. During this investigation, the Research Team looked for anomalies in the behavior of the MAP assessment that could impact the validity of the results. Over 100,000 test events were analyzed as part of this analysis.

By design, the adaptive engine within MAP provides a valid test result despite pauses or interruptions to the test during administration. If paused or interrupted, the MAP test will present an item of the same level of difficulty as the last item displayed before the interruption. *From our findings, we are confident the scores are valid and that the MAP test behaved as designed in spite of unintentional interruptions.* Based on this analysis we are drawing the following conclusions and making the following recommendations:

- The results of test events that were not interrupted during the testing process are valid.
- The results of test events that were paused or interrupted during the testing process are valid.
- For any students whose test was proctor terminated, as with all proctor terminated tests, we recommend that these students re-test within the defined testing window. The test results will be valid.
- For any students whose test was suspended, as with all suspended tests, we recommend that the tests be resumed and completed within the defined testing window. The test results will be valid.

While the test scores are valid we recognize that some students may not have been able to give their best effort due to technology issues during testing. If the teacher or test proctor feels that a particular student was too distracted or otherwise unable to concentrate on the test because of any environmental factors associated with the testing experience, we recommend you retest those students.

NWEA Research Team